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Approved For Release 2001/08/31 : CIA-RDP79R01012A000300020003-2

9 Feb. IAC Meeting

CHANGES RECOMMENDED BY THE D/I, USAF IN

NIE-9: "TURKEY'S POSITION IN THE EAST-WEST STRUGGLE"

1. Reference Page 1, par. 2, line 3, change to read as follows:

New Soviet or Soviet-satellite successes in expanding the Communist sphere of control would not significantly alter Turkey's alignment (except as noted in conclusion 3) as long as the US demonstrated that its fundamental aim was to continue the struggle against the USSR.

2. Reference Page 2, par. 4, lines 1 & 2, change to read as follows: ~~We believe~~ Turkey is believed capable of halting at the Straits an invasion by Bulgarian forces ~~at the Straits~~. Against a Soviet attack, the Turks probably could maintain organized resistance for two or three months, and perhaps -- with substantial Western assistance -- could hold a redoubt area in Southern Turkey against Soviet forces.

3. Reference Page 3, par. 1, line 2 through 7, change to read as follows: 1. Short of major Western reverses in the Near East at the hands of the USSR or a US retreat into hemispheric isolationism, Turkey will remain solidly aligned with the West. The Turks are determined to preserve the independence of Turkey and consider that alignment with the US and its allies offers Turkey its only hope of effectively resisting Soviet pressures, which since the end of World War II have been even ~~far~~ more severe than the pressures to which Turkey was traditionally subjected by Czarist Russia.

USAF Declass/Release Instructions On File

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4. Reference Page 5, par. 3, line 10, change to read as follows:

Turkey is more willing than most members to make the UN effective but has little confidence in its present effectiveness to check aggression on the part of the USSR.

5. Reference Page 5, par. 4, line 1, change to read as follows:

4. In the event of ~~With each~~ cold war reverse and each isolated Soviet or satellite aggression, Turkish demands for a firm US commitment would become more insistent and ultimately would become a condition for Turkey's continued alignment with the West.

6. Reference Page 9, par. 7, b, line 5, change to read as follows:

The necessity of maintaining large defense forces, to which about 35% of the current budget is devoted, severely limits industrial development and prevents any appreciable ~~increase~~ improvement in Turkey's low standard of living.

7. Reference Page 10, par. 9, change to read as follows: ^{¶ 10.} The align-

ment of Turkey with the West is of primary strategic importance because of Turkey's political and military strength and its geographical position.

Turkey adjoins Soviet and Soviet satellite territories and lies across

~~the one~~ line of Soviet penetration into the weak and unstable countries

of the Middle East. ~~Since Turkey is politically stable and has a rela-~~ ^{The Turkish army}

~~tively strong army armed forces, it would be~~ a major obstacle to Soviet

advances in the Middle East through Turkey. Furthermore, Turkey's pro-

US alignment, in conjunction with its military strength, ~~tends to~~ deter

the USSR from attacking Turkey. Implicit in Turkey's alignment with the

~~West in view of Turkey's strength and its determination to resist Soviet~~

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attack is the possibility that an assault on Turkey might lead to a ^{general} US counter-attack against the USSR. ^{P 11 In the event of this} ~~In this event if this should happen~~ ^{Turkey would be extremely vulnerable to an attack} in the near future, the Turkish Air Force and available Turkish air facilities could contribute little to the Allied cause. ^{At} ~~Because of the present~~ ^{There is}

a lack of air facilities in Turkey capable of supporting medium bomber operations or sustained fighter and light bomber operations, and because of the vulnerability of Turkey, Construction of air facilities and protection of them from Soviet air and ground attacks ^{would} be necessary before the US ^{could} use Turkey effectively as a base for air operations against the USSR and the Satellites. The US is currently engaged in ~~the reconstruction~~ ^{new} and building Turkish air facilities. It is anticipated that this program will result in considerable improvement within one year. ~~Turkey might~~ ^{could} ~~can in time, become a forward air base for US air forces and greatly increase the capabilities of US air force units operating against the USSR or against Soviet or Satellite forces anywhere in the Balkan and Middle East areas.~~

12. ^{As long as Turkey controls the straits} Moreover, Turkey might be able to prevent for a limited time the passage of Soviet submarines and surface ships from the Black Sea through the Straits to the Mediterranean.

8. Reference Page 12, par. 12, line 2; change as follows: In the event of a Soviet or satellite attack against Yugoslavia, Iran, or even Greece, Turkey probably would not intervene on its own initiative.

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